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NEWS RELEASE

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Water tests confirm no threat to Red Butte Creek from second Chevron spill

Salt Lake City – Division of Water Quality (DWQ) scientists have been monitoring Red Butte Creek twice daily at several locations since last Thursday to determine if petroleum products from the second Chevron pipeline spill impacted the creek.

Trace amounts of petroleum contaminants were found in samples taken from the creek at the nearest location to the spill the day after the event. Subsequent monitoring has revealed no evidence of these trace contaminants. These trace amounts pose no threat to aquatic life or to the public from contact with the water. There is no visual evidence of the oil spill making it to the creek. However, how the contaminants got into the creek is unknown.

“We think the petroleum compounds found in the creek actually resulted from the petroleum contaminants becoming airborne and then being deposited into the stream.” said Walt Baker, director of DWQ. “The good news is that at the levels seen, they pose no risk to aquatic life or the public.”

DWQ is continuing to monitor the creek.

Results of test will be posted at: <http://www.deq.utah.gov/Issues/redbuttespill/index.htm>

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